

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/881,712

Applicant(s)

YAMASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Mark Connolly

Art Unit

2115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 18 June 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

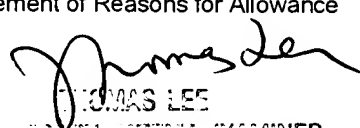
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 31 August 2001
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


THOMAS LEE
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-14 have been presented for examination.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Omae et al, US Pat No 4468724 teaches comparing a counter value with a reference value stored in a register and outputs an ON-signal when the counter and reference values are equal [col. 3 lines 38-68].

Lee, US Pat No 5625843 teaches comparing a counter value with a reference value provided by the CPU and generating an interrupt when the counter and reference values are equal [col. 2 lines 41-63].

Ng et al, US Pat No 5708817 teaches comparing a counter value to a preprogrammed value and generating an interrupt when the counter and preprogrammed values are equal [col. 3 lines 10-27].

Jeong et al, US Pat No 5881007 teaches comparing a counter value with a predetermined count value and outputting a logic high signal when the counter value reaches the predetermined count value until a row address strobe signal disables the counter [col. 3 lines 15-33].

Akamatsu et al, US Pat No 6393577 teaches comparing a counter value with a count value and outputting a signal when the counter value equals the count value to control the output of a delayed clock [col. 13 lines 32-50 and fig. 12].

Ozawa, US Pat No 6667663 teaches comparing a counter value with a stored value M and outputs a logic 0 when the counter value is smaller than M and a logic 1 when the counter value is larger than M [col. 11 lines 2-26].

Applicants Admitted Prior Art teaches a clock selecting circuit for selecting between an external clock and a second clock and outputting the selected clock to a data shift register for performing data transmission or reception [pages 2-4 and fig. 14].

3. The prior art of record does not teach or suggest individually or in combination outputting a coincidence signal each time a setting value agrees with the value of the count signal and selecting the coincidence signal as a data shift clock signal.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. Pursuant to MPEP 606.1, the title has been changed to read:

**-- CLOCK SELECTION CIRCUIT FOR SELECTING BETWEEN AN
EXTERNAL CLOCK AND A CLOCK GENERATED BY COMPARING A COUNT
VALUE WITH A SETTING VALUE --**

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Connolly whose telephone number is (571) 272-3666. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-5PM (except every first Friday).

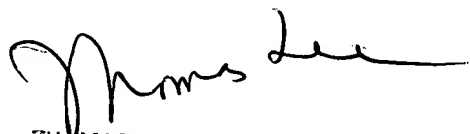
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C Lee can be reached on (571) 272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2115

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark Connolly
Examiner
Art Unit 2115

mc
March 2, 2005


THOMAS LEE
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2100